

Stewart kicks off 2005 AER campaign

Helping the Army take care of its own

Sgt. Jonathan M. Stack
Editor

Col. John M. Kidd, garrison commander, kicked off the 2005 Army Emergency Relief campaign by signing the first official document Mar. 4.

“Make sure everyone gets an opportunity to contribute,” he said. “This is important to all of us.”

“You don’t have to donate to receive an AER loan,” said Frederick C. Sledge, AER officer. “We are trying to help families out.”

Every dollar contributed to the AER campaign goes directly to loans and grants

given to assist Soldiers requiring emergency assistance.

AER offers the Army an opportunity to take care of themselves, Kidd said.

“AER helps junior Soldiers especially, who don’t get paid enough,” he added.

According to a previous Frontline article, “the purpose of the campaign is to raise funds necessary to help ensure AER’s ability to make the required funds available to meet the needs of our Soldiers, retirees, and dependents when they are faced with financial emergencies.”

The loans and grants given out by AER are interest free.

“After two years of giving money to AER and wondering why I was doing it, I had to take to AER loans. This experience helped me realize that it doesn’t matter how good you think you are with your money we all need a little help sometimes, for a variety of reasons,” wrote Sgt. Jacob Boyer in a commentary for The Frontline about his experience with AER.

In 2004, Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield assisted 6,430 families with loans and grants totaling almost \$3.5 million.

AER, a private nonprofit organization, has been the Army’s emergency financial

AER loans are given out for:

- Rent
- Initial rent
- Utilities
- Food
- Loss of funds
- Dental/Medical Expenses
- POV repair
- Car/insurance payments
- Emergency travel
- Funeral expenses
- Emergency shelter

assistance organization since Feb. 5, 1942.

This will be AERs 64th year of operation.

For more information, contact Fredrick Sledge at 767-5058.



Sgt. Jonathan M. Stack

Col. John M. Kidd, garrison commander, makes his contribution to kick off Fort Stewart’s 2005 Army Emergency Relief Campaign Mar. 4.

AFAP program — the community’s voice on issues

Spc. Robert Adams
Frontline Staff

Every year leaders get together to hear what the Army community wants to change either locally or nationally to better their lives through the Army Family Action Plan.

The AFAP program gives Soldiers and their families the chance to voice their opinion on what is and isn't working and what they think will fix it.

The major issues that are raised

help make for a decision-making tool for Army leadership at all levels: local installation, Major Army Command and Headquarters, Department of the Army.

There has been more than 80 pieces of legislation and 130 Army and Department of Defense policies changed, and more than 140 programs and services have been improved on a national level because of the AFAP process.

The AFAP process starts with a local AFAP conference each year where delegates from the community

raise issues, suggest ways to resolve them and report them to senior officials.

This year’s conference for Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield will be Sept. 13 - 14 at Club Stewart.

Months before the conference, issue boxes are placed all over post where people can write down their issue. These boxes will be placed in the main buildings on post.

The issue sheet will ask you what you think is not working well, why is it a problem and what do you think we should do about it.

conference in Washington, D.C. to address top issues and propose solutions.

”To see these people from the highest levels of leadership talking about these issues and making sure that they are looking out for family members, Soldiers, retirees and everyone was amazing,” said Schwerzler, who was a delegate in a past DA conference.

Besides just voicing your issue, there are other ways to help out with the AFAP program.

Issues discussed in AFAP work groups	
Medical/Dental TRICARE Exceptional Family Member Program Suicide Prevention	MWR Commissary Special Tuition Assistance
Force Support Uniforms OPTEMPO Soldier issues BOSS JAG Soldier Education GI Bill Billeting BAS	Family Support ACS Programs Family Readiness Volunteer issues
Entitlements/Benefits BAH/Housing Leave SGLI AAFES	Education & Youth Child Development Services Youth Services Local School Policies
	Employment Non-appropriated funds Directorate of Civilian Personnel Procedures Spouse Preference
	Retirement Benefits Transition Assistance

AFAP Success Stories

Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance increased from \$50,000 to \$200,000.

Basic Allowance for Housing increased by 11% - part of a plan to eliminate out-of-pocket housing costs by 2005.

A Military Savings Plan was authorized.

AER provides grants in overseas locations to assist with financial aid for spouses to pursue an education.

Family Separation allowance was increased from \$75 to \$100 per month.

Family Support Groups were institutionalized.

Programs like Army Family Team Building and Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers were born.

All segments of the Army family can voice their issues with the AFAP program: single, married, and dual military Soldiers, retirees, family members, dependent youth, members of the Reserve Component, and Department of the Army civilians.

“Change happens because one person saw something wrong, wrote it down, stuck it in an issue box on post and it went through this process,” said Ransom Schwerzler, an AFAP volunteer.

If commanders can't resolve them locally, issues are sent up the chain to the next level, the major army command.

The MACOM sends issues requiring higher attention to the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center. Delegates then come from throughout the army to this bi-annual

conference and work in groups to discuss certain issues. Each volunteer's point of view will be expressed for every issue within the workgroup and the group will choose the top three issues to be brought to the command.

“These volunteers know they can make a difference, and they find this as an opportunity to make life better at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield,” said Vicky Wigington, ACS.

Another way to help is to be a volunteer in the AFAP support group or be a member of the local AFAP Advisory Committee.

Wigington said, “We need their help because they have new eyes on how to achieve those goals and make sure everyone knows about AFAP.”

AFAP Facts

- AFAP was the brainchild of Army spouses.
- The Army is the only branch of DOD that has this type of program.
- Almost 500 issues have entered AFAP in its 20-year history.
- Many AFAP improvements impact quality of life for all services.
- AFAP issues are continually being monitored and worked toward resolution year-round.

U.S. Army Soldier Show needs more techs, performers

Tim Hipps
Army News Service

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — The U.S. Army Soldier Show needs three technicians to handle audio and lighting for its 2005 tour.

Artistic Director Victor Hurtado also is open to hopeful performers submitting 11th-hour applications for live auditions Mar. 12 and 13 here.

Because of deployments and military commitments to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, several Soldiers — including three techs — will miss an opportunity to tour with this year’s show.

“We are definitely in need of additional technicians and we welcome additional talent as well,” said Hurtado, who asks candidates to promptly contact him via e-mail at Soldiershow@cfsc.army.mil. He will reply with applications and procedures.

“We had a full cadre of technicians and we lost three in two days,” said Hurtado, adding that two sustained injuries and the other received orders to attend drill-sergeant school.

For the moment, technicians Pfc. Joel Gette and Pfc. Abraham Hazbun, obtained from Army Entertainment Division’s 2005 Margaret



Tim Hipps

Spc. James Becton, Camp Red Cloud, Korea, brings spirit to the 2004 U.S. Army Soldier Show. The troupe needs technicians to handle audio and lights for the 2005 show. Artistic Director Victor Hurtado also is looking for more performers to audition Mar. 12 - 13 at Fort Belvoir, Va.

“Skippy” Lynn Stars of Tomorrow Talent Contest, are the show’s saving grace.

Nineteen performers are scheduled for live auditions, but three may be excluded because of duty extensions

in Korea, said Hurtado, who would like to have 22 - 25 performers audition.

Hurtado evaluated more than 400 performer candidates for this year’s show, selecting 25 for auditions.

From those candidates, less than 20 of them can make the show so Hurtado has invited two alternates to audition.

“We can tour with 14 people, but with the cast being

the crew as well, that just makes it much more difficult on the cast to set up and tear down,” he said. “The idea is not to bump people but to have enough people to carry the weight.”

AKO supports Army Library Program

Special to the Frontline Army News Service

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — Army Knowledge Online is partnering with Army libraries to provide a broad scope of Army information that is readily accessible 24 hours a day.

The AKO site, which serves as the Army libraries community page, provides user authentication and access to those services restricted to authorized Army users.

The Digital Army Library Service is the Army Library Program's homepage and its virtual library.

Featuring a worldwide network for an Army in transformation, ALP has 81 general, 67 technical, 24 academic, and six other special libraries.

DALS also features 18 databases holding 8,000 full text journals and 2,675 e-books that were funded by the U.S. Army Com-

See Library — 2B



Pot of Gold



Fort Stewart volunteer award recipients



Photos by Spc. Robert Adams

(left to right) Bradley Yarber, Angela Rounds, Nancy Hilaski and her daughter Sydney, Tamisha Solomon and Lt. Col. Anita Kazmierczak.



(left to right) Mary Johnson, Kathryn Ruff, Diane Wood, Causa Crawford, Lisa Lamaire, Rachel Curry, Renee Mckvain, Shela Sessoms



(left to right) Jennifer Conary, Lori Victor, Stephanie Cantrell, Linda Klein, Shirley Boyett, Bonnie Gagnon, Christie Long, Clarissa Petery.



(left to right) Cymberly Burns, Trina Perdue, Laura Putnam, Rebecca Smith, Joanna Cook, Jennifer Alferi, Heather Thomas, Mary Beth Smith



(left to right) Jean Redwood, Karen Grady, Amy Smith, Joan Horning, Evalyn Santiago, Carol Reynolds, Tonia Lambert.

Hunter volunteer award recipients

Take a moment to recognize the volunteers that have spent many countless hours serving the Army community on Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield.



Nancy Gould

(left to right) Eric Williamson, Family Readiness Group leader, A Co., 2nd Bn, 3rd Aviation Regt.; Elizabeth Bernordoni, newsletter editor, Family Readiness Group Headquarters and Headquarters Co, Aviation Bde.; Elizabeth Descoteaux, Volunteer Family Readiness Group, Headquarters and Headquarters Co., 1st Bn., 3rd Aviation Regt.; Melanie Brockhard, Family Readiness Group leader, Headquarters and Headquarters Co., Aviation Bde.; Linda Goble, Community Leader Information Forum facilitator; Mary Barton, volunteer, Tuttle Army Health Clinic; and Lt. Col. Jeffery Goble, garrison commander, Hunter Army Airfield,

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

United in religion can accomplish much

Chaplain (1st Lt.) Matthew T. Temple
2/7th Inf. Chaplain

I would like to share with you a story that I heard some time ago. One Sunday, Joe's mother hurries into her son's bedroom and wakes him up.

"Joe, it's Sunday. Time to get up! Time to get up and go to church! Get up!"

Joe mumbles from under the covers, "I don't want to go."

"What do you mean you don't want to go?" says the mother. "That's silly. Now get up and get dressed and go to church!"

Joe says, "No, I don't want to go and I'll give you two reasons why I don't want to go." And then he sits up on the bed and continues, "First, I don't like them and second, they don't like me."

The mother replies, "That's just plain nonsense. You've got to go to church and I'll give you two reasons why you must. First, you're now forty years old and, second, you're the pastor!"

This pastor could well be any of the apostles whom Jesus had commissioned to be his witnesses in Jerusalem, in Judea, in Samaria and to the ends of the earth.

But we remember that as soon as Jesus left them, they went to an upper room and hid themselves because they were afraid of the Jews.

We, too, are often like that. But what about the charge that Jesus left us to be his witnesses and to share the good news of God's love with all humankind?

Let's look at the Bible. God sent Jesus, because He loved us, to do the greatest work for us that anyone has ever done.

That work was dying on the Cross for our sins, so that we could be set free. Jesus paid the

penalty for all our sins. He died so that we would not have to die. He suffered so that the bondage of sin could be broken. Jesus did it all because he loved us. And now he feeds us, like the disciples in Emaus, giving us his Word and the Bread from Heaven.

This is what is called the Gospel, which means good news. And, it is good news indeed, which we should proclaim to everyone by words and deeds and become engaged in ministry.

What we may do in ministry may differ, but we should, at least do something.

Through the sacrament of Baptism we received spiritual gifts that we should utilize for the benefit of the community of faith. Spiritual gifts demonstrate the activity of God in our midst.

Therefore, we should be involved in the many groups and congregations we have on post.

Your involvement will bring you into closer relationships with God and each other; and through these living relationships to bring the life-changing message of the gospel of Jesus Christ to others in our Army community.

As you find your place of worship in one of our chapels on post, you will be loved, encouraged, cared for and empowered to develop spiritually. When we are united, we can do far greater things than we could ever do alone.

It is the power of God that multiplies our effectiveness when we work together to accomplish his purposes. It's time to know us by who, unites us: Jesus Christ.

If we are united in Christ, nothing else will ultimately matter.

God uses us in powerful ways when we work together. He multiplies our ministry and increases our effectiveness in every possible way.

Library — from Page 1B

munity & Family Support Center.

Additionally, DALs provides access to 2,000,000 items from 34 military libraries in the Military Education and Research Library Network.

Supporting deployed soldiers, DALs institutionalized AKO user desktop access to a 24/7 "Ask A Librarian Service."

Launched on AKO in May 2003 and accessible to 1.7M users, this service shares expertise across the Army worldwide.

Ask A Librarian leverages the expertise of librarians in 29

global Department of Defense libraries; facilitates access to unique Army print collections; and supports concurrent creation of an Army knowledge base.

A strategic, knowledge-management resource, the Army Libraries Program enables the Army to gain and maintain full-spectrum knowledge superiority.


ALP concurrently facilitates education, self-development, training, research, outreach, well-being, and lifelong learning for Army soldiers, civilians and families.

For more information, contact the Ft. Stewart Library.

Army Library Program and Related Sites

- Army Libraries Community Page — www.us.army.mil/suite/login/welcome.html
- Digital Army Library Service www.libraries.army.mil
- Library Reference Center www.libraries.army.mil/refctr.htm
- Military Education & Research Library Network <http://merln.ndu.edu>

Volunteer Spotlight

Amani Smith

Amani Smith, a native of Macon, Ga, volunteers for a Family Readiness Group. She is a co-leader for the group.

"I volunteer because it gives me the opportunity to help families through challenging times. It's very fulfilling to assist in a time of need," Smith said.

"What I like most is the feeling you get when you know that you've done something good. The appreciation given by spouses and families makes it all worth while," she said.

If you would like more information about becoming a volunteer with Army Community Service, call Vicky Wigington at 767-0420 or send an email to Vicky.Wigington@stewart.army.mil.

Worship Opportunities

Fort Stewart		
Catholic	Location	Time
Sunday Mass	Heritage	9 a.m.
Saturday Mass	Heritage	5 p.m.
Weekday Mass	Victory	11:45 a.m.
Protestant		
Sunday Protestant Worship	Marne	11 a.m.
Sunday Gospel Service	Victory	11 a.m.
Sunday Family Friendly	Vale	11 a.m.
Tuesday Healing Service	WACH	11:30 a.m.
Sunday School	Diamond Elementary	9:30 a.m.
Kids' Church(K to 6th grade)	Across from Dia. Elem.	11:00 a.m.
American Samoan		
Sunday Worship	Vale	1 p.m.
Muslim		
Friday Jum'ah	Building 610	12:30 p.m.
Masjid (Daily)	Building 610	9 a.m.
Lutheran		
Sunday Worship	Marne	9 a.m.

Hunter Army Airfield		
Protestant	Location	Time
Protestant Sunday School	Religious Education Center	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Service	Chapel	11 a.m.
Catholic		
Sunday Mass	Chapel	9:30 a.m.
CCD	Religious Education Center	11 a.m.



For more information, call the 1st Army Recruiting Station in Savannah, Ga. at (912) 920-2571.

R	RESOURCES	
O	OPTIMIZE	
C	COMPLIANCE	
K	KEEP IMPROVING	
of the Marine	Sustainable Fort Stewart/HAAF	

"The only Marine base Sam had seen was made of plastic."

All Sam wanted to do was visit Parris Island, the South Carolina Marine base where his dad was once a drill instructor. But after touring the barracks and eating in the chow hall, Sam became the 15th Honorary U.S. Marine — thanks to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Help turn more dreams into reality for children with life-threatening illnesses. Contact the Make-A-Wish Foundation today.

1-800-722-WISH
www.wish.org



Marne TV

February 2005 Schedule

Marne TV can be found on Comcast Cable Channel 16 every weekday.
Tune in to the Marne Report six times a day for the latest from Stewart and Hunter.

5 a.m.	Army Newswatch
5:30 a.m.	MARNE REPORT
6:30 a.m.	Air Force News
7 a.m.	Navy News
7:30 a.m.	Army Newswatch
8 a.m.	MARNE REPORT
9 a.m.	Air Force News
9:30 a.m.	Navy News
11:30 a.m.	Army Newswatch
Noon	MARNE REPORT
1 p.m.	Air Force News
4:30 p.m.	Navy News
5 p.m.	MARNE REPORT
6 p.m.	Army Newswatch
6:30 p.m.	Air Force News
7 p.m.	Navy News
10 p.m.	MARNE REPORT
11 p.m.	Army Newswatch
Midnight	MARNE REPORT



Pet of the Week

Lucy, a three-year-old mix-breed, is friendly, quiet, and house-trained. She is ready to adopt today. She is playful and would make a good addition to any family.

If you are interested in adopting a pet like Lucy for your home, call the Fort Stewart Veterinary Clinic at 767-2842.

The clinic is located on W. Bultman Ave., Hinesville, Ga.

Birth Announcements

Provided by Winn Army Community Hospital

Feb. 21 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paige Renee Marshall, a girl, 6 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Sgt. Phillip Marshall and Christina Marshall.	Williams. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marcus Aries Schaefer, a boy, 7 pounds, 12 ounces, born to Mr. Matthew Schaefer and Pfc. Candy Schaefer.	Tonya Lynn Pilarski.	March 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amiya Ja’Nae Gorrell, a girl, 7 pounds, 4 ounces, born to Spc. Stephen A. Gorrell and Tiffany F. Gorrell.
Feb. 23 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kylie Rayne Williams, a girl, 7 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Wallace Williams and Melissa	Feb. 25 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hannah Elizabeth Jewel Pilarski, a girl, 7 pounds, 12 ounces, born to Spc. Jason Allen Pilaski and	Feb. 28 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alaina Marie DeFelice, a girl, 5 pounds, 12 ounces, born to Capt. David M. DeFelice and Lauren B. DeFelice.• Aliana Acosta, a girl, 7 pounds, 4 ounces, born to Spc. Ruben Acosta and Aquilla Acosta.	March 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jason Tyler McClaren, a boy, 9 pounds, 4 ounces, born to Spc. Jason McClaren and Heather McClaren.



WOODRUFF THEATER

Mar. 10 - Mar. 16



Alone in the Dark

Christian Slater, Tara Reid
Tonight — 7 p.m.

A supernatural detective named Carnby travels to Shadow Island to solve the mystery of a friend's death. While there, he discovers the secrets of the Abskani, an ancient tribe that worshiped demonic forces which gave them incredible powers. Carnby's findings suggest that the Abskani are poised to return to take over the world.

With the help from his former girlfriend, an archeologist who has the knowledge to stop the demons, Carnby must now fight against their attempts to take over his mind as well as their attempts to conquer the Earth.

R (violence and language) 96 min.

The Wedding Date

Debra Messing, Dermot Mulroney
Fri., Sta., Sun. — 7 p.m.

Kat Ellis's worst nightmare is about to come true. Not only is her younger, half-sister, Amy, getting married before her, but to add insult to injury, the groom's best man is Kat's ex-fiancée, Jeffrey. Unable to bear the thought of attending alone, she hires an escort to play her boyfriend.

Her rented date, fits the bill perfectly. He's handsome, intelligent, well spoken, and a perfect gentleman. The plan? Make Kat's ex sorry that he ever let her go.

PG-13 (sexual content including dialogue) 90 min

Phantom of the Opera

Gerard Butler, Emmy Rossum
Mon., Tues., Wed. — 7 p.m.

A disfigured musical genius haunts the catacombs beneath the Paris Opera, waging a reign of terror over its occupants. When he falls fatally in love with the lovely Christine, the Phantom devotes himself to creating a new star for the Opera, exerting a strange sense of control over the young soprano as he nurtures her extraordinary talents. He's smitten and wants Christine for his own, but Christine meets up with her childhood acquaintance Raoul and the two fall in love. Feeling betrayed, the Phantom decides to kidnap her and imprison her with him in his lair. Raoul is now the only one who can stop him.

PG-13 (brief violent images) 143 min.



Monday through Thursday admission is \$1.75 for adults, \$1.25 for children.

Friday, Saturday and Sunday admission is \$3.50 for adults, \$1.75 for children.

Stewart boys finish second in finals

Local GRPA team hosts state finals tournament, falls to Hapeville, 80-65

Sgt. James Strine
Frontline Staff

After a wobbly tournament start, the Fort Stewart U14 Boys Basketball team pulled it together and pulled a second-place finish in the Georgia Recreation and Parks Association State finals tournament. The local March madness — here an eight team, two-day single elimination tournament — began Friday and ended Saturday at Corkan Gym with the Hapeville Rockets beating out Fort Stewart in a final score of 80-65.

Fort Stewart's team had not played in two weeks at the onset of the tournament, a fact

some fans attributed to the team's shaky first quarters of each game. Stewart's first game against Waynesboro started out such with the first quarter closing score 8-10.

Gradually the team, led by Rashad Peters, came back to dominate the final minutes, sending Waynesboro out after first round of play, 69-58. Peters amassed several steals and offensive rebounds to put points up for the home team and ultimately rally the team and the crowd. In the end, Peters finished with 33 points.

The second game, Fort Stewart struggled to evade elimination in an overtime win against Cedartown's best

efforts to knock them out. The stage was set for the finals.

A tired Fort Stewart team took to the court and from the very onset, it was plain to see the height advantage Hapeville possessed.

Throughout the game, Hapeville cherry-picked and out rebounded the home-favorite tournament hosts. The first quarter shaped out like the other games with them trailing 12-17.

"Defense," Ricardo Panther said in a one-word answer on what the team could have done better.

The defense never showed up, and aside from a mid-third quarter rally that had the crowd on its feet hoping for a late comeback, the Stewart team only held the lead a couple times before Hapeville finally widened the gap in the fourth quarter, earning them the state title.

"We're still number one," said Jamal Patterson. "We'll be back next year.

Peters clearly emerged as the team's highest scorer. Averaging over 30 points a game, he attributed focus as his mantra.

"Keep your head up, stay focused and play hard," he said.

The madness has ceased for this season and as some players who will be 15 next year, the coaches are pleased with this year's team and hopeful for the future.

"They had a great performance," said assistant coach Edward Russell. "We were just a little undersized. We just need to work on our defense."



Photos by Sgt. James Strine

Rashad Peters goes in for a lay-up in the tournament opener against Waynesboro.

Hunter golf course to host GEICO's Collegiate Invitational Tournament

Press Release
Hunter PAO

The sixth annual GEICO Collegiate Invitational Golf Tournament is scheduled Mar. 11 - 13 at the Hunter Army Arifield Golf Course.

The event, hosted by University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, gives soldiers, members of the community, and members of Hunter Golf Course and Taylors Creek Course, an opportunity to play with top rated university golfers slated for Professional Golf Association Tour status.

It also gives members of the six universities represented a chance to compete and see how well each school's golf program compares with those at other schools around the southeast.

"The 54-hole event brings good publicity for Hunter Golf Club and good, competitive fun for the students," Tommie McArthur, golf director, Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, said.

He said the number of expected participants and on-lookers will probably include many college-age students who have never visited a military installation before.

The six universities competing in the tournament include: Armstrong Atlantic State University (Maroon and Gold teams), Elon

University, Longwood University, Florida International University, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (Blue and Gold teams), and Wright State University.

The College-Am event on Mar. 11, starts with lunch at 11: 15 a.m., followed by an 18-hole tournament with an 11:45 a.m. shotgun, and is open to community members who want to play with the collegiate participants.

It features eight teams, each consisting of four members, and one collegiate player, who will play his ball separately, adding his score to the four-man team total.

The Friday College Amateur event is unique in that it allows golf course members, soldiers, and the Savannah golfing community to be paired with a top university player.

The \$70 per person entry fee includes green fees, golf car fees, tee-package gift, lunch, prizes. A cookout is scheduled for 4:45 p.m. at the courses' clubhouse.

In Saturday's first and second rounds on Mar. 12, the collegiate participants play 36 holes, with a 7:30 a.m. shotgun, and on Sunday, Mar. 13, 18 holes beginning with a 8 a.m., shotgun start.

An award ceremony follows at approximately 11:30 a.m.



Spectators are invited at no cost. Getting access to Hunter Army Airfield is easy. Just have your driver's license, vehicle registration and vehicle insurance with you.

For additional information about the tournament, contact Tommie McArthur at (912) 352-5622.

AASU still perfect, beats NW Missouri State 4-3

Special to the Frontline
AASU sports

SAVANNAH, Ga. — The Armstrong Atlantic State baseball squad fought off Northwest Missouri State in order to extend its perfect start to the 2005 season, picking up a 4-3 win on Thursday afternoon at Pirate Field and improving to 13-0 on the year.

The start by AASU is the best since the 1988 squad that began the season 21-0 en route to the program's first DII World Series appearance.

AASU built a 4-0 lead through the first five innings, starting things off with a run in the bottom of the first when Sean Hotzak scored from second base on a passed ball by NWMSU catcher Ryley Westman.

Rob Recuenco blooped a two-RBI single down the left field line in the second inning to plate two, then Jarin Lewis drove in a

run with an RBI single in the fifth.

The Bearcats (3-5) started their comeback with a single run in the sixth, then threatened to come back in the seventh against AASU reliever Leon Boyd.

But Boyd ended the threat by striking out pinch hitter Billy Burns and Cameron Dodd to end the threat, and did not allow a hit in the final two innings to close out the victory for the Pirates.

Jon Troop (5-0) picked up the win for the Pirates, hurling six innings and giving up just one hit and one unearned run while striking out seven.

Boyd recorded his second save of the season for AASU.

Jarin Lewis led the Pirates offensively by picking up three hits.

AASU next hosts Kutztown on Saturday, March 5, at 2:00 p.m. in continuing Savannah Invitational action at Pirate Field.

World Champion Red Sox visit wounded troops at Walter Reed

John D. Banusiewicz
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — In the typical glare of publicity that surrounds professional athletes and presidents, baseball's world champion Boston Red Sox were President Bush's guests Mar. 2 at the White House.

But before going to the airport to fly back to the team's Fort Myers, Fla., spring training home, the Red Sox traveled below the radar for a low-key visit to wounded troops at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

The meeting room was full of brave men, but probably none as brave as Army Spc. Manuel Moquete. He showed up wearing the cap of the archrival New York Yankees. "A colonel stopped me and said, 'I don't know if they'll let you in there with that hat,'" he said with a smile. "But it can't be worse than coming back from Iraq."

Moquete was two weeks away from the end of his one-year tour in Iraq when he was

wounded by a car bomb in Tikrit. "I go to all the hot spots," joked the New York City native. "I go to Tikrit sometimes, and sometimes I come here to the Boston Red Sox."

His tie to the team could be that he went to the same high school as Red Sox slugger Manny Ramirez in the city's Washington Heights neighborhood.

One patient, a Milton, Mass., native, missed a portion of the visit. He was just waking up after surgery when his wife, Gina, and best friend, Tony Viano, excitedly told him the Red Sox were visiting.

"I told the nurses they'd better hurry up," said Army 1st Lt. Philip Dow, who was wounded by a car bomb southwest of Baghdad while serving in Iraq with D Company, 2nd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. He said he spoke with many of the players and found them "very down to earth."

"It's amazing," Dow said from beneath a well-worn Red Sox cap. "Here were these

superstars saying it's an honor to meet me."

Interspersed with laughter and baseball banter, the Red Sox players, coaches and front-office staff listened to the soldiers' stories with rapt attention and growing admiration.

"These are my heroes," right fielder Trot Nixon said. "These guys go over and protect my very freedom on a daily basis, and they don't even know who I am."

Relief pitcher Alan Embree echoed Nixon's sentiments about the troops. "They're the reason why we get to do what we do," he said. His empathy for the troops has a family tie, Embree added, noting he has a cousin now serving in Iraq.

Both players said they especially were impressed by the positive attitude they noticed in all the wounded troops they spoke with.

"I'm sure they have their difficult times, and I couldn't imagine what they've been through (being wounded) in Iraq or



John D. Banusiewicz

Boston Red Sox designated hitter David Ortiz chats with Army Spc. Manuel Moquete during a Mar. 2 visit by baseball's reigning world champions to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington.

Afghanistan," Nixon said.

"They did it for me, they did it for Alan, they did it for the next guy, and that's something special," he said. "That's why I hold our American military men and women in such high regard for what they do."

Catcher and team captain Jason Varitek said, visiting the wounded troops was

"about as humbling a thing as you can do."

"We deal with a game; they deal with life," he said. "That's the biggest thing that comes to mind — how much I appreciate what they do for us. They fight for our country and do the things asked of them by our country, and what we do is on such a small scale compared to what they do."